WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A cathode ray tube comprising a shadow mask having an effective area and a dead space formed on both outer sides of said effective area in a horizontal direction, a plurality of aperture lines having a plurality of apertures for passing electron beams being arranged via a bridge in said effective area, and the shadow mask being stretched and held in a vertical direction, wherein a slit extending along said aperture line is formed in said dead space.

10

5

2. The cathode ray tube according to claim 1, wherein a horizontal width of said slit is from 45 % to 100 % of a horizontal width of said aperture adjacent to said dead space.

15

3. The cathode ray tube according to claim 1, wherein a vertical length of said slit is equal to or longer than a vertical length of said aperture adjacent to said dead space.

20

4. The cathode ray tube according to claim 1, wherein said slit includes a slit having inclined faces opposed to each other via an opening, the inclined faces being formed at an inclined angle such that light beams of electron beams entering said dead space are blocked.

25

5. The cathode ray tube according to claim 1, further comprising an electron shield disposed for blocking electron beams from reaching said dead space.